

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 077599
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 OPR-02
A-01 OC-06 CPR-01 USSS-00 SY-05 USIE-00 PA-01
/044 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:EHURWITZ:RLW
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY
NSC:MARMACOST (SUBS.)
S/S:DANDERSON
-----126840 250150Z /65
O 250119Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077599

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER) AS

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

1. AS A RESULT OF FORTHCOMING VOTE ON PANAMA CANAL TREATY, VICE PRESIDENT MUST POSTPONE HIS VISIT TO THE PACIFIC.
2. REQUEST EMBASSY DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER FRASER. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE DFA OFFICIALS INFORMED OF POSTPONEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

QUOTE: DEAR MALCOLM:

THE US SENATE HAS DECIDED THAT THE VOTE ON THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY WILL BE HELD DURING THE PERIOD OF APRIL 5 TO APRIL 26. GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS TREATY AND MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, I MUST REMAIN
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IN WASHINGTON UNTIL THIS VOTE TAKES PLACE. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS SITUATION WILL REQUIRE ME TO POSTPONE MY VISIT TO AUSTRALIA AS WELL AS TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE PACIFIC AREA. I AM LOOKING FORWARD, HOWEVER, TO MAKING THE VISIT SHORTLY AFTER THE VOTE ON THE TREATY AND HOPE TO PROPOSE NEW DATES FOR AN EARLY VISIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROPOSE SUCH DATES ON

OR ABOUT APRIL 5.

I VERY MUCH REGRET THE INCONVENIENCE THAT THIS WILL CAUSE
YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT. FOR MY PART, I AM DISAPPOINTED
THAT THE CHANCE TO SEE AUSTRALIA AND TO CONTINUE THE
FRUITFUL TALKS THAT WE BEGAN IN WASHINGTON HAS TO BE
POSTPONED. I DO HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE
DATES FOR A VISIT TO CANBERRA CAN BE WORKED OUT VERY
SHORTLY. SINCERELY, WALTER F. MONDALE END QUOTE

3. YOU SHOULD INFORM GOA THAT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF
POSTPONEMENT WILL BE MADE IN WASHINGTON MORNING OF
MARCH 25. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE077599
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EHURWITZ:RLW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780131-0532
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780324/aaaaauly.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8da6adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3202235
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSTPONEMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, AS, US, (MONDALE, WALTER F)
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8da6adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014